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Honorable Richard Neal Chairman Committee on Ways and Means U.S. House of Representatives 1102 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Honorable Kevin Brady Ranking Member Committee on Ways and Means U.S. House of Representatives 1102 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Neal, Ranking Member Womack, and distinguished Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the American Academy of Actuaries' Health Practice Council, I appreciate the opportunity to provide the following for the official record of your committee's June 12 hearing regarding pathways to a universal health care system.

Earlier this year, the Academy's Health Practice Council published an issue paper, <u>Expanding Access to Public Insurance Plans</u>. The paper outlines possible approaches for the implementation of a public health insurance plan, including the establishment of a public health insurance option, Medicare/Medicaid buy-ins, and a single-payer system. We welcome the opportunity to discuss the paper in more detail with you and your staff, as well as with other members of the committee.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments. If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please contact David Linn, the Academy's senior health policy analyst (202.785.6931; linn@actuary.org).

Sincerely,

Audrey Halvorson, MAAA, FSA Vice President Health Practice Council American Academy of Actuaries

CC: Members of the House Committee on Ways and Means

¹ The American Academy of Actuaries is a 19,500-member professional association whose mission is to serve the public and the U.S. actuarial profession. For more than 50 years, the Academy has assisted public policymakers on all levels by providing leadership, objective expertise, and actuarial advice on risk and financial security issues. The Academy also sets qualification, practice, and professionalism standards for actuaries in the United States.